

CURT T. OTAGURO Comptroller

# STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

**TESTIMONY** 

OF

CURT T. OTAGURO, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE

ON

LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT ON

MARCH 19, 2019, 9:30 A.M. CONFERENCE ROOM 309, STATE CAPITOL

S.B. 661, SD1 HD1 RELATING TO FUEL CELL ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Eli and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on S.B. 661, SD1 HD1.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the intent of the measure to amends the definition of electric vehicles to include fuel cell electric vehicles.

We suggest revising Act 168, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, Section 2, subsection (b), to the following:

- "1. By amending Section 2, subsection (b) to read:
- (b) An electric vehicle on which an electric vehicle license plate is affixed shall be exempt from payment of parking fees, including those collected through parking meters, charged state or county authority in this State, except that this exemption shall not apply:
- (1) For any period longer than the initial two hours of metered parking. This 2.0-hour daily restriction applies regardless whether electric car is parked in single metered stall or in successive metered stalls.
- (2) To parking fees assessed in increments longer than one twenty-four-hour day,

## including weekly, monthly or annual parking permits; or

(3) For non-metered parking stalls, for any period longer than the initial four hours of use of any stall or in successive parking stalls."

This revision will prohibit the current abuse of electric vehicle moving from stall to stall in the same lot to avoid fees. This electric vehicle users under current law is circumventing the intent of the statute. This revision will correct the abuse of both metered non-metered parking occurring in all State and County parking facilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter.



DATE: March 18, 2019

TO: Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Chair, Committee on Labor & Public Employment

Submitted Via Capitol Website

FROM: Tiffany Yajima

S.B. 661, S.D.1, H.D.1 – Relating to Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles

Hearing Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.

**Conference Room: 309** 

Dear Chair Johanson and Members of the Committee on Labor & Public Employment:

We submit this testimony on behalf of the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers ("Alliance"). The Alliance is a trade association of twelve car and light truck manufacturers including BMW Group, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, Ford Motor Company, General Motors Company, Jaguar Land Rover, Mazda, Mercedes-Benz USA, Mitsubishi Motors, Porsche, Toyota, Volkswagen Group of North America, and Volvo Car USA.

The Alliance is in support of S.B. 661, S.D.1, H.D.1 which would adopt in statute a definition of "fuel cell electric vehicle" to encourage early adoption of fuel cell electric vehicles. Automobile manufacturers have invested heavily in the research and development of hydrogen technology and are very supportive of efforts to increase the availability of passenger fuel cell electric vehicles in Hawaii.

Electric vehicles play an important role in achieving our energy and environmental goals. Today, there are 42 models of electric vehicles available nationwide, including 15 battery electric, 24 plug-in hybrid electric and 3 fuel cell electric models. By 2021, it is anticipated that at least 11 automakers will have hydrogen fuel cell vehicles available on the market. Additional policies such as HOV lane access and parking benefits that incentivize early adoption of fuel cell electric vehicles are critical to the adoption and deployment of these vehicles.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of S.B. 661, H.D.1.



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Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair Representative Stacelynn Eli, Vice Chair Committee on Labor & Public Employment

RE: SB 661 SD1 HD1 – Relating to Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles- In Support Tuesday, March 19, 2019; 9:30 AM; Conference room 309

Aloha Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Eli and members of the committee,

Servco Pacific Inc. ("Servco") appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony in **strong support** of SB 661 SD1 HD1, which includes fuel cell electric vehicles in the definition of "electric vehicles" and allows fuel cell electric vehicles the same benefits as electric vehicles.

Servco introduced the Toyota Mirai fuel cell vehicle in 2016, making Hawaii the 2<sup>nd</sup> state in the U.S. to receive this zero emission vehicle. In 2018, Servco completed construction of the State's first publicly accessible hydrogen fueling station. The station was funded solely by Servco. Producing hydrogen from water using a renewable source of electricity helps Hawaii become more self-reliant and reduces our dependency on imported oil.

This bill aligns with Hawaii's dedication to a diversified partnership between fuel cells, hybrids, and all-battery electric vehicles to drastically improve transportation efficiency and reduce carbon emissions in our State.

We respectfully request your support of SB 661 SD1 HD1. The passage of this measure will demonstrate Hawaii's commitment to utilizing all clean transportation technology available to reach its clean energy goals. Thank you.



To: The House Committee on Labor and Public Employment

From: Brodie Lockard, Hawaii State Climate Lead, Organizing for Action

Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2019, 9:30 am

## In opposition to SB661 SD1 HD1

Dear LAB Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Eli, and Committee Members—

Organizing for Action opposes SB661 SD1 HD1 and offers comments.

Fuel cell vehicles have not lived up to their potential. The development and penetration of electric vehicles have shot past that of hydrogen and fuel cell vehicles.

Nearly every major automaker said in 2017 that they plan to move to all-electric vehicles (EVs), and will each introduce 10 to 50 new EV models within one to seven years. Volkswagen and General Motors have already scheduled the end of their gasoline vehicle production.

As a planet, we don't have time to be supporting an iffy transportation technology when there's a far more mature one that is gaining rapid acceptance; has widespread infrastructure in place or planned; and enjoys a bright, immediate future planned by every significant automaker.

Also, the definition of "Alternative fuel" on page 2 should not include fuels that produce emissions, like "natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, ... biodiesel, mixtures containing twenty per cent or more by volume of biodiesel with diesel or other fuels."

Don't waste our time and money on fuel cell vehicles. Please defer SB661 SD1 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Brodie Lockard Hawaii State Climate Lead, Organizing for Action



Email: <a href="mailto:communications@ulupono.com">communications@ulupono.com</a>

# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT Tuesday, March 19, 2019 — 9:30 a.m. — Room 309

# Ulupono Initiative <u>Strongly Supports</u> SB 661 SD 1 HD 1, Relating to Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles

Dear Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Eli, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Murray Clay and I am Managing Partner of the Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and better manage waste and fresh water resources. Ulupono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

**Ulupono strongly supports SB 661 SD 1 HD 1**, which categorizes hydrogen fuel-cell vehicles as electric vehicles and gives zero emission hydrogen vehicles the same benefits as electric vehicles, because it aligns with our goal of reducing Hawai'i's dependence on imported fossil fuels by increasing the use of more efficient, cleaner forms of ground transportation.

Hydrogen fuel-cell vehicles have been recently introduced to Hawai'i and are technically electric vehicles. These vehicles will provide another non-fossil fuel based transportation option for local consumers and similar societal benefits as battery electric vehicles. Providing hydrogen fuel-cell vehicle owners with the same benefits currently received by battery electric vehicles, high occupancy vehicle lane access, and free metered parking will help further their adoption.

As Hawai'i's energy issues become increasingly complex and challenging, we appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that support clean ground transportation.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay Managing Partner

#### **BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY**

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU 630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET HONOLULU, HI 96843 www.boardofwatersupply.com



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ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E. Manager and Chief Engineer

ELLEN E. KITAMURA, P.E. Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer

The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair and Members Committee on Labor and Public Employment Hawaii State Capitol, Room 309 Honolulu. Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Johanson and Members:

Subject:

Senate Bill 661, Senate Draft 1, House Draft 1, Relating to Fuel Cell

Electric Vehicles

The Board of Water Supply (BWS) supports Senate Bill (SB) 661, Senate Draft (SD) 1, House Draft (HD) 1, which would elevate procurement priority for fuel cell vehicles for State and County vehicle purchases. This bill promotes sustainable transportation in Hawaii by encouraging the use of renewable energy and reducing our dependence on imported fossil fuels.

The BWS is the largest water utility in our State and we do our part in seeking cleaner transportation options for our fleet of vehicles and equipment to help mitigate climate change that could adversely affect our precious water resources.

Fuel cell vehicles have a role in helping Hawaii government fleets minimize vehicle emissions and reach 100% renewable energy use by 2045. Passage of this bill will demonstrate Hawaii's commitment to a clean energy future.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SB 661, SD1, HD 1.

Ernest Y. W. Lau, P.E.

Very truly yours

Manager and Chief Engineer











#### **HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT**

March 19, 2019, 9:30 A.M. Room 309 (Testimony is 1 page long)

#### **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 661 SD1 HD1**

Aloha Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Eli, and members of the Committee:

Blue Planet Foundation supports Senate Bill 661 SD1 HD1, which would extend certain priority considerations and incentives that are currently only available to battery electric vehicles to fuel cell electric vehicles. This bill would exempt fuel cell electric vehicles from payment of parking fees and high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane restrictions, increase the priority to be placed on fuel cell electric vehicles for state and county entities purchasing new vehicles, and allow for fuel cell electric vehicles to be parked in designated electric vehicle parking spaces.

Blue Planet Foundation is a local, mission-driven nonprofit committed to clearing the path for 100% clean energy in Hawaii both in the electricity sector and the transportation sector. We recognize that to reach Hawaii's clean transportation goals and do our part in mitigating climate change, we should incentivize all zero-emission vehicles that can be powered by renewable energy—e.g., both fuel cell electric vehicles and battery electric vehicles. These technologies will help us to maximize renewables utilized on the electric grid and minimize petroleum use and emissions from our ground transportation sector.

Like battery electric vehicles, fuel cell electric vehicles are powered by an electric motor. In a fuel cell vehicle, pressurized hydrogen gas is chemically fused with oxygen from the air to make water, which in the process generates an electrical current that can power the electric motor. Just as battery electric vehicles will be increasingly powered by renewables as Hawaii reaches its 100% renewable portfolio standard by 2045, hydrogen vehicles can also get cleaner alongside them, as more hydrogen is produced by renewable energy resources.

Senate Bill 661 is important to ensure that fuel cell electric vehicles are part of the planning conversation around Hawaii's transition to 100% renewable ground transportation. This bill rightly expands incentives and benefits for zero-emission vehicles to more comprehensively encompass *all* zero-emission vehicles. Fuel cell electric vehicles have a vital role to play in Hawaii's clean transportation future, and they should receive the same ancillary benefits that are given to battery electric vehicles to spur adoption.

Blue Planet Foundation respectfully urges the Committee to forward to the bill, amended to take effect upon approval.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

# SB-661-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 10:30:49 AM Testimony for LAB on 3/19/2019 9:30:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support SB661. Coral reefs are dying in large part to warming oceans, and valuable coastline is eroding due to sea level rise. Climate change is already occurring. Promoting the use of electric vehicles is an important step in mitigating global warming.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei